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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT
 TOPIC Military Activities of KVP Mechanized Division Potsdam

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 8 July 1954639092REFERENCES PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

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This is UNEVALUATED

1. Between 20 and 25 May 1954, the Ruinenberg Kaserne in Potsdam appeared to be less heavily occupied than previously. Seven model SU-85 SP guns were observed in the billeting area. A company of soldiers who wore blue service color and two platoons of soldiers who wore wine-red service color were engaged in basic infantry training in the barracks yard.
2. On 22 May, the General Wever Kaserne quartered an estimated 2,000 KVP personnel who wore blue and wine-red service colors. Two companies of soldiers who wore blue service color marched from the installation toward the target ranges on the road to Marquardt.
3. On 23 May, about 40 officer candidates who wore red-bordered black epaulets were observed practicing bayonet fighting.
4. According to a KVP officer, the unit previously stationed at the Garde du Corps Kaserne moved to Kirchmooser about mid-May in exchange for the KVP unit which had previously been stationed there. The soldiers of the latter unit wore red-bordered black epaulets. On 25 May, the Garde du Corps Kaserne quartered an estimated 400 men. A new four-story barracks building was under construction in the billeting area, and the two former riding halls were being reconstructed, apparently for the storage of artillery pieces.¹
5. On 26 May, the Ruinenberg Kaserne quartered an estimated 1,000 KVPs who wore red-bordered black, black-bordered red and black-bordered blue epaulets. About 40 trucks were parked in the billeting area. Groups of up to 60 men were observed receiving infantry training.
6. On 20 May, the Ruinenberg Kaserne and the Garde du Corps Kaserne had 6 telephone connections. The Ruinenberg Kaserne was being connected to the postal telephone network.

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7. Orders have been given for the establishment of a telephone connection at the KVP sport camp at Luftschiffhafen in Potsdam. A total of about 1,600 KVPs are scheduled to attend sport courses given at the Luftschiffhafen camp. Trainees will sleep in tents with a capacity of 20 men each. Target ranges for subcaliber target practice were being set up in the area of Luftschiffhafen.²
8. Between 20 May and 5 June 1954, the KVP installation at Sachsenhausen quartered an estimated 2,000 men who wore red-bordered black, blue, black-bordered blue, and blue-bordered black epaulets and collar patches. Shortly after 2000 on 20 May, 2 convoys of 10 new trucks each entered the installation from the direction of Oranienburg.
[redacted] On 5 June, 10 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets and carried a dismantled 82-mm mortar were seen marching to the wooded area east of Lake Lehnitz. Ten men and a T-34/35 tank were observed near gate III.
9. On 6 days between 18 and 26 May, 5 or 6 civilians with luggage were seen walking from the Oranienburg railroad station to the KVP installation at Sachsenhausen. Between 18 May and 4 June KVP personnel was observed training in the vicinity of the military post. Training was conducted in small groups on infantry weapons, mortars, 37-mm AA guns, 3 or 4 T-34 tanks, and some model PA-64 armored scout cars.³
10. Lieutenant Korecke (fnu) was in charge of chemical defense training of the 1st Mech Regt in Oranienburg. A chemical defense instructor ranking as EM was assigned to each battalion. Although steel helmets and gas masks belong to the authorized equipment of each soldier, these items of equipment have not been issued nor were they kept in stock rooms of the unit. One battery of the artillery battalion was the only unit to be issued gas masks for training purposes. These gas masks were marked by letters VMM within a circle. ⁴
11. Mechanized Division Potsdam had been placed on alert status during the PDJ Whitsun Rally in Berlin.
1. [redacted] Comment. The transfer of the AAA Regiment in Kirchmoeser to Potsdam is known. 25X1
2. [redacted] Comment. The KVP sport school is located at Luftschiffhafen in Potsdam. 25X1
3. [redacted] Comment. These civilians were probably new recruits. 25X1
4. [redacted] Comment. This information indicates that only theoretical training in chemical defense is given to KVP units. It appears that gas protective equipment is available only in very small quantities.

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